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19 March 1984

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: [ ] Deputy Director for Policy  
Planning and Policy Staff, ICS

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SUBJECT: Director, NASA's recent trip relative to the space station

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The following information was provided by Gil Rye at the 16 March meeting of the space strategy drafting group:

- Rye characterized the reactions of foreign countries as being very supportive and ranging from interested to enthusiastic.
- All were agreeable to discussion of space station cooperation at the London summit in June.
- They expect that the London summit discussion will focus on reaching agreement in principle with details to be worked out in the future.
- All requested more information on the specifics of the US space station program. (Since the program is just getting off the ground, it is not clear when authoritative program information will be provided.)
- Beggs is going to Canada to complete his trip on Monday. The 2 April report to the President will be drafted by NASA and sent to the IG/SIG for comment. It will contain:
  - Beggs's assessment of the reactions of each of the foreign countries to the US invitation to participate.
  - Guidelines for international cooperation.
  - A recommended statement for the London summit.
  - There is a meeting of a group that is working on the agenda for the London summit on 6 April. The acronym for the group is something like SHIRPA. The 6 April SHIRPA meeting is evidently the driver on the 2 April deadline of the Beggs report to the President.
- There was considerable discussion among the drafting group members on the international cooperation issue.

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- Many of the representatives asked what the objectives of the international cooperation were, e.g., was it just to save money or were there some other reasons driving us in this direction. Many expressed concern about the technology transfer implications of international cooperation.
- Considerable concern was expressed about the process or the lack thereof and how the agencies would participate in the decisionmaking process.
- Gil's response to much of this was that it was premature to really probe into these issues in depth because the definitive aspects of the agreements are far in the future. (Comment: It is very clear that we are on the "slippery slope." The President will make various agreements in principle, and we will end up having to make definitive agreements based on that agreement in principle without having examined specific implications in an appropriate level of detail.)



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